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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<i>Applicants:</i>	Howlett, Philip George et al.	}
		}
<i>Serial No.:</i>	10/517,352	}
		}
<i>Filed:</i>	November 19, 2004	}
		}
<i>Title:</i>	Scheduling Method and System for Rail Networks	}
		}
<i>Atty. Docket:</i>	16582-0001	}
		}
<i>Group:</i>	3617	}
		}
<i>Examiner:</i>	Nguyen, Thu V	}

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of the above-identified patent application,  
Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendment.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on  
page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this paper.